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LETTER DATED 1 OCTOBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a letter dated 1 October 1993 addressed to you by the Hon. Mario Raffaelli, Chairman of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) Conference on Nagorny Karabakh, on the present state of the efforts made by the Minsk Group for the peaceful settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict.

I should appreciate it if the letter, and the enclosed "Adjusted timetable of urgent steps to implement Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993)", could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Francesco Paolo FULCI
Ambassador

Annex

Letter dated 1 October 1993 from the Chairman of the CSCE Minsk Conference on Nagorny Karabakh addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 13 of Security Council resolution 853 (1993), I wish to report on the present state of the efforts made by the Minsk Group for the peaceful settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict.

The Minsk Group held unofficial consultations in Moscow from 9 to 11 September and again in Paris from 22 to 28 September. At the same time, direct contacts between the parties to the conflict were carried out in Moscow on 12 and 13 September, and again in the days around 24 September, on the fringes of a meeting of Commonwealth of Independent States leaders that took place there on that day.

These direct contacts resulted in the cease-fire in force from 31 August being extended to 5 October; further extensions are being discussed at the present time.

The Moscow and Paris Minsk Group consultations took into account the result of the direct contacts, as well as other elements and positions put forward by the parties. The result was an "Adjusted timetable of urgent steps to implement Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993)" dated 28 September 1993, which is attached.

This timetable is now being sent to the parties, with the request that they signify their acceptance of it by 7 October at 12 noon, local time.

As in previous cases, the timetable provides for the withdrawal from occupied territories, the restoration of communications and transportation, the transformation of the present cease-fire into a permanent cessation of all military activities, under the supervision of a CSCE monitoring mission, and the opening of the Minsk Conference, which is foreseen for 2 November 1993. In relation to earlier versions, the timetable presents an adjusted sequence of events and a clearer reciprocity of actions by the parties.

Thanks to all these developments, I feel the solution of the conflict may be approaching a turning-point. This makes it imperative for all - individual Governments as well as international organizations - to redouble their efforts to try to make the turning-point a reality.

In these circumstances, the adoption by the United Nations of a new document (Security Council resolution or statement by the President of the Security Council) on the Nagorny Karabakh conflict would represent a source of guidance and encouragement in the right direction, both for the parties to the conflict and for the rest of the Minsk Group.

Together with other members of the Group, I have reflected on some points which might usefully be included in this new document. I venture to pass them on to you. They are as follows:

- A confirmation of the earlier United Nations resolutions on the conflict;

- A call for a withdrawal from recently occupied territories, including the newly occupied territories;

- A welcoming of the direct contacts aimed in particular at establishing a stable and effective cease-fire, and a call to the parties to make the cease-fire permanent;

- An expression of support for the "Adjusted timetable" of 28 September 1993, and a call to the parties to the conflict to accept it;

- An underlining of the desirability of an early convening of the CSCE Minsk Conference, with a view to arriving at an overall settlement of the conflict, in conformity with the 24 March mandate of the CSCE Council of Ministers;

- An expression of readiness on the part of the United Nations to send its representatives to observe the Minsk Conference, if invited, and to provide all possible assistance for the substantive negotiations that will follow the opening of the Conference;

- An expression of support for the monitoring mission developed by the CSCE and of the willingness of the United Nations to be associated with it in any possible way;

- An expression of determination by the international community to help alleviate the human suffering caused by the conflict, in particular as concerns refugees and displaced persons, and human rights violations in general.

Appendix

[Original: English/Russian]

Adjusted timetable of urgent steps to implement Security Council resolutions 822 (1993) and 853 (1993)

The following urgent steps will be implemented by the parties to the conflict. In the context of the timetable, the term "parties to the conflict" refers to the Governments of Armenia and Azerbaijan and to the leadership of Nagorny Karabakh, each according to its own role in the conflict. The Azeri interested party of Nagorny Karabakh will continue to have a role in the negotiations towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict. The terms "party to the conflict" and "leadership of Nagorny Karabakh" do not imply recognition of any diplomatic or political status under domestic or international law.

The parties to the conflict will continue to make all advance technical preparations, including by direct contacts between them, to ensure that the actions for which they are responsible can be accomplished according to the present timetable. They will coordinate closely with the head of the CSCE verification or monitoring missions as soon as he arrives in the region to demonstrate that all necessary preparations have been made.

Technical problems that may delay implementation of any step of the timetable will not affect the obligation of the parties to the conflict to carry out the subsequent steps of the timetable. The technical nature of such problems will be verified by the head of the CSCE verification or monitoring mission.

By signing the present timetable, the parties to the conflict confirm that they have agreed to continue to observe a complete and durable cease-fire at least until the opening of the Minsk Conference.

The parties to the conflict will, as soon as possible, exchange lists of all prisoners and hostages being held, whether by authorities or private persons, and all available information on persons who died in their custody. They will also exchange lists of missing persons, with a view to receiving all available information concerning their fate. The parties will immediately take all necessary action to facilitate access by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to all prisoners and hostages.

In the present timetable, the term "withdrawal" is to be understood as withdrawal to the relevant segment of the 1988 district borders.

18-20 October - Minsk Group preparatory meeting for the opening session of the Minsk Conference.

23 October - Announcement by the Nagorny Karabakh leadership of readiness to withdraw from all recently occupied areas of Azerbaijan, and by all parties to the conflict that all obstacles to communications and transportation are removed and that a programme of restoration is under way.

- CSCE verification mission, led by a representative of the Chairman-in-Office accompanied by at least 15 to 20 experts and possibly by United Nations representatives, arrives in the region. As soon as possible after arrival, the head of the mission will set up a joint coordination commission along the lines set out in attachment II to the present appendix.

24 October - Withdrawal from the Kubatli district begins, including clearing of own mines.

25 October - The verification mission enters the Kubatli district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from the Kubatli district is completed by 2359 local time.

26 October - The main gas pipeline from Azerbaijan into Armenia and Nakhichevan is reopened. This is verified by the verification mission.

- Withdrawal from the Agdam district begins, including clearing of own mines.

28 October - The verification mission enters the Agdam district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from the Agdam district is completed by 2359 local time.

- The exchange of acknowledged hostages and prisoners of war is effected.

29 October - The Kazakh-Idjevan road is reopened from both sides. This is verified by the verification mission.

- Withdrawal from Fizuli begins, including clearing of own mines.

31 October - The verification mission enters the Fizuli district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from the Fizuli district is completed by 2359 local time.

1 November - Reopening of the Kazakh-Idjevan railway from both sides. This is verified by the verification mission.

2 November - Opening session of the Minsk Conference (at the highest level among the parties to the conflict). Adoption of the agenda of the Conference.

- Signing by the parties to the conflict of a statement on the "Timetable of urgent steps", the continuation of the negotiations towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis on the basis of the principles, commitments and provisions of the CSCE and the continued implementation of Security Council resolutions

822 (1993) and 853 (1993). This statement will commit the parties to the irreversibility of the process.

- Solemn confirmation at the Conference of determination to ensure free and unimpeded access of international humanitarian relief efforts to the region, in particular in all areas affected by the conflict.

- Parties to the conflict commit themselves, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to return all hostages and prisoners of war or their remains, and to cooperate in accounting for the missing.

- Confirmation of the cease-fire, which is transformed into a permanent cessation of military activities. This term involves the exclusion, on a permanent basis, of:

  - The use of any type of weapon for military purposes, including shelling and aerial bombardments (complete cease-fire);

  - Any offensive operation or attack;

  - Any military manoeuvre;

  - Any movement of military units or military equipment and any transport for the purpose of resupplying of munitions to existing units or deploying reinforcements (except movements for withdrawal to the rear or reintroduction of lightly armed security personnel into the Kelbajar district, with prior notification to the relevant CSCE mission);

  - Any patrolling for either reconnaissance or combat purposes;

  - Any kidnapping or taking of hostages, plunder or killing of civilians.

Violations of the permanent cessation of military activities will be promptly reported by the relevant CSCE mission to the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE, along with a factual analysis, with a view to enabling the CSCE to take the appropriate measures, including the possibility of reporting violations and making recommendations to the Security Council.

Together with the announcement of the cessation of military activities, parties to the conflict should also state at the conference that, in the case of violations, they will punish those responsible on their own side.

4 November - End of the opening session of the Minsk Conference.

- Withdrawal from the Djebrail district begins at 0001 local time, including clearing of own mines.

6 November - CSCE verification mission enters the Djebrail district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from this area is completed by 2359 local time.

- Announcement by the Government of the Azerbaijani Republic that "there will be restraint in the reintroduction of security personnel in the Kelbajar district". Such personnel will number approximately 1 per cent of the population having returned to the district and in any case will not exceed 500. Their weapons will be limited to pistols and sub-machine-guns/automatic rifles. A CSCE mission will monitor the level of security forces and the type of weapons to be reintroduced, in order to oversee that they correspond to the above provisions. These provisions shall apply until the Minsk Conference has completed its work or a subsequent regime of the district has been agreed.

7 November - The first elements of the CSCE monitor mission, comprising about 50 monitors, begin operating in the region on the basis of the terms of reference approved by the CSCE and of the present timetable.

- Withdrawal from the Kelbajar district begins at 0001 local time, including clearing of own mines.

9 November - CSCE verification mission completes verification of the withdrawal of all occupying forces from the Djebrail district.

10 November - Reopening of all remaining communications and transportation within the region.

12 November - Verification mission enters the Kelbajar district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from the Kelbajar district is completed by 2359 local time.

13 November - Withdrawal from the Martakert district begins at 0001 local time, including clearing of own mines.

16 November - CSCE verification mission enters the Martakert district, provided the head of mission is satisfied that the safety of the mission is ensured. Withdrawal from this area is completed by 2359 local time.

18 November - CSCE verification mission completes verification of the withdrawal from the Martakert district.

28 September 1993

Attachment I

Definition of the area of conflict

The terms used in the present document do not imply recognition of any diplomatic or political status under domestic or international law.

The area of conflict includes the following:

A. All territory east of Armenia, south of the Georgian frontier and the southern bank of the Koura River and the Mingechaurskoe Reservoir and north of the northern bank of the Arax River, excluding the territory east of 48 longitude;

B. A strip of land having a width of about 5 kilometres on each side along the border between Armenia and the Azeri province of Nakhichevan;

C. A strip of land having a width of about 20 kilometres on the Armenian side of the remaining international border between Armenia and Azerbaijan;

D. Airfields, wherever located, under the control of the parties to the conflict at which combat or other aircraft used for military purposes can be based.

(See attached map of A, B and C areas and list of airfields)

Possible overlappings due to the application of the above criteria do not cause an increase in the area of conflict.

As an exception to the normal regime of the area of conflict, movements of unloaded weapons (including heavy weapons after reactivation) and personnel will be permitted, subject to prior notification to a CSCE mission of such reactivation and movement, in the city of Stepanakert, along the main road from Stepanakert north to Mardakert and south to Hadruth, and 1 kilometre on both sides of the road. Ammunition should be transported in separate convoys.

Normal border services or installations on borders with third countries shall be exempted from monitoring.

While monitors cannot be present in all locations at all times, they have the right to visit any part of the area of conflict at any time, for the accomplishment of their duties.

The monitoring area includes the area of conflict as defined in A to D above, as well as any other area on the territories under the control of the parties to the conflict as necessary for the monitoring mission to carry out the tasks specified in point 1 of the terms of reference.

Azerbaijan
RUSSIA
GEORGIA
ARMENIA
TURKEY
IRAN
20 km boundary
5 km boundary on either side of border
A
B
C
Derbent
Baku
Yerevan
Lake Urmia

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LIST OF AIRFIELDS

The following list of airfields has been prepared on the basis of the parties' contributions and remarks; the nature and condition of some of these airfields have to be ascertained. The definitive list of airfields to be monitored will be compiled by the head of the CSCE verification or monitoring mission as soon as the mission becomes operational.

Agdam	3958NO4700E	Lemkoran	3834NO4849E
Agjabedi*		Mets Mazra*	4011NO4546E
Akstafa	4107NO4525E	Naftalan	4031NO4649E
Baku-Bina	4028NO5023E	Nakhichevan	3911NO4527E
Baku-Kala	4024NO5012E	Nososnaya	4035NO4933E
Berd	4055EO4527E	Pirsagat	3951NO4920E
Bilasuvar (Pushkino)	3930NO4841E	Prishib	3951NO4920E
Dollyar	4053NO4557E	Sabirabad*	
Dzhermuk	3949NO4540E	Salyani	3938NO4859E
Fizuli	3935NO4711E	Samgachaly	4007NO4927E
Gajikabul*		Sheki	4108NO4709E
Geran*		Shinuayr	3927NO4620E
Goris*		Sisyan*	
Gyandzha	4044NO4619E	Sistal Chay	4048NO4925E
Gyoja*		Stepanakert	3954NO4647E
Kafan	3912NO4627E	Tamrukulular	4044NO4651E
Kala-Puta*		Tashir	4105NO441E
Karachala	3949NO4858E	Vardenis*	
Kazi Magomed	4001NO4854E	Yerevan (Yuzhnii)	4007NO4427E
Kumayri (Leninakan)	4045NO4351E	Yevlakh	4037NO4708E
Kyurtamir*		Zakataly	4133NO4640E
Kyzylagadzh	3900NO4848E	Zvartnots*	

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* Exact nature and condition to be ascertained.

Attachment II

Guidelines for a joint coordination commission

1. In order to facilitate the resolution of technical military issues and other technical issues arising from the day-by-day implementation of the timetable and other arrangements concluded during the peace process, a Joint Coordination Commission (JCC) shall be established in the monitoring area among all the parties to the conflict under the chairmanship of the head of the relevant CSCE mission and for the duration of that mission.

2. The purpose of the JCC shall be purely practical. Within the framework of its tasks, it will provide an opportunity for direct contacts between the parties. Its existence, composition and activities shall not imply recognition of any legal status of its parties under domestic or international law.

3. In the early stages of the process, the JCC shall contribute to ensuring an effective de-escalation and interruption of military activities, the identification of uncontrolled military formations and the continued observance of the cease-fire.

4. The JCC shall strive to improve the exchange of information among the parties, as well as the synchronization of actions by them.

5. The JCC shall be convened by its chairman on a regular basis, and whenever required. Items to be discussed will be determined by the chairman, taking due account of issues brought to his attention by any participant.

6. The JCC will be composed of the parties to the conflict. The representative of the Azeri community of Nagorny Karabakh shall participate in the discussion of those problems which concern that community directly.

7. The JCC shall normally meet at the relevant CSCE mission's headquarters. Its chairman may decide to convene it elsewhere in the monitoring area, whenever required.

8. The JCC proceedings and any conclusion on specific questions may be recorded under the chairman's responsibility.

9. Each party to the conflict shall facilitate all travel and activities relating to the JCC and ensure the security and safety of JCC participants in connection with such travels and activities, within the territory under its own control.

10. If necessary, the present guidelines may be reviewed by the Minsk Conference or its working groups.